

Message Text

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PAGE 01 FRANKF 06530 181230Z
ACTION OES-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ICAE-00 PA-01 SSO-00 INRE-00
NSCE-00 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 SOE-02 COME-00
DODE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 INR-10 IO-13 L-03 NSF-01
NSAE-00 PM-05 SS-15 SP-02 DOE-15 INT-05 /109 W
-----026357 181236Z /53

O 181213Z AUG 78
FM AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2966
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L FRANKFURT 6530

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, ECEM, SENV, GW
SUBJECT: CONTROVERSY ON STORAGE OF US-ORIGIN TOXIC CHEMICALS

REF: (A) FRANKFURT 6343 (B) FRANKFURT 6505

1. HESSIAN AGRICULTURE MINISTER WILLI GOERLACH TELEPHONED
CONSUL GENERAL THIS MORNING TO REQUEST ADVICE ON TWO
ASPECTS OF THE STILL GROWING CONTROVERSY REGARDING THE
STORAGE OF ALLIED CHEMICAL CORPORATION'S "KEPONE" IN HESSE.
(AUGUST 18 BILD ZEITUNG FRONT PAGES ANOTHER ARTICLE
ON ISSUE UNDER BANNER HEADLINE "GRZIMEK (GERMAN ZOOLOGIST):
STOP THE U.S. POISON."

A) FIRST, HESSIAN AUTHORITIES HAVE MAINTAINED SO
FAR THAT THE KALI AND SALZ A.G. FACILITY AT HERFA-NEURODE
IS UNIQUE AND THAT THERE IS NO ALTERNATIVE DISPOSAL OR
STORAGE SITE IN THE UNITED STATES WHICH IS EQUALLY
SATISFACTORY FROM THE STANDPOINT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY.
THIS ASSERTION IS BEING CHALLENGED BY CRITICS OF THE
GOVERNMENT ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE SO FAR LIMITED THEIR
STATEMENTS TO EXPRESSIONS OF GENERAL DOUBT WITHOUT
SPECIFICS. GOERLACH FEELS VULNERABLE ON THIS POINT AND
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HAS ASKED US FOR AUTHORITATIVE ADVICE ON
WHETHER HE IS ON FIRM GROUND IN INSISTING THAT THERE
REALLY IS NO ECOLOGICALLY EQUALLY SATISFACTORY DISPOSAL
SITE IN THE UNITED STATES. (THE MERE FACT THAT IT MIGHT
BE CHEAPER FOR ALLIED CHEMICAL TO TRANSPORT AND STORE
THE PRODUCT IN THE FRG WOULD NOT BE ENOUGH.)

B) SECOND, GOERLACH WANTS ASSURANCE THAT ALLIED
CHEMICAL CORPAORATION IS A SERIOUS AND REPUTABLE COMPANY.
ON THIS POINT WE HAVE SUFFICIENT INFORMATION HERE TO
PROVIDE TO HIM.

2. ACTION REQUESTED - URGENTLY REQUEST RESPONSE TO
QUESTION IN 1 A ABOVE. LEHMANN

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 18 aug 1978
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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TAGS: PINT, ECEM, SENV, GE, US
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